

STAT

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.
PRESSe. 76,686
S. 76,305

Front Page Edit Page Other Page

Date: JUL 5 1964

10-A THE SUNDAY PRESS

Binghamton, N. Y., July 5, 1964

100,000 Homesick Cubans Plot...and Hope

\$s Pour In As Leaders Seek Unity

EDITOR'S NOTE: In Miami Cuban refugee organizations proliferate so fast they can't be counted. Money pours in and enthusiasm is still high. Everyone wants Castro overthrown, and agrees on only one thing—it will be a tough job. A fresh look at the boiling Cuban pot.

By BEN MEYER
Special Press Writer

Miami, Fla. — The Bay of Pigs is well into its fourth year of history, and still 100,000 homesick Cubans jam the Miami area—still hoping, still plotting to overthrow Fidel Castro.

The money pours in for this endeavor from many sources around the world.

For the Bay of Pigs operation the major source of funds as well as the management, equipment and training of the invader forces has been charged to the U. S. government's Central Intelligence Agency.

Reports are widespread that CIA again is a contributor of money and technical advice, but on a much more modest scale than for the Bay of Pigs. A popularly used figure on the cost of that operation was \$40,000,000.

U. S. officials deny reports of current help.

A study of some of the many refugee groups tells the story of the heartaches of about 250,000 Cuban exiles in the United States, of the enormous task the "action" groups face in ousting a firmly entrenched Communist police state system, and of the weaknesses of their own organizations.

The amount of money they get, the number of members, their potential to harass the Castro regime are secrets or guesswork and, at times, exaggeration.

There has been criticism that some of the groups are fighting a publicity war against Castro while jockeying for leadership of the refugees.

But the money keeps rolling in—from sale of pencils, pens, pamphlets, books, "Liberation Bonds," Rifle Bonds" (\$92 buys a rifle), tithing, and gifts from Cubans rich and poor, all over the world. It must run into millions yearly.



—Associated Press WIREPHOTO.

SUAREZ RIVAS

MRR Publicity Director

Money is raised at ice cream socials, luncheons, lectures, art exhibits, and benefit performances by Cuban artists. There is a heavy flow, too, from private citizens in the United States and Latin America, from labor, political and other groups in the hemisphere, and from a few Latin American governments.

What can the exile groups do to overturn the regime in Cuba?

At best, the outlook is discouraging.

Leaders of three major groups concede this but insist that some day a spark might set aflame the pent-up anger of the people and liberate Cuba.

Manuel Artime of the Revolutionary Recovery Movement (MRR), Manuel Ray of the Revolutionary Junta, and Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, head of three combined action groups, admit the job will not be easy.

So far, the exiles agree on two things:

ONE—They want Cuba freed of communism.

TWO — The task, despite many signs of growing disenchantment among the Cuban people and the Castro military forces, presents enormous problems.

In addition to the three major action groups, five or six dozen other organizations have announced they will do what they can to help free Cuba. Some plan small raids of their own; others engage in propaganda activities, psychological warfare through pamphlets, letters and radio